

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, May 6, 2021

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 10:00 a.m. at via GoToMeetings, on May 6, 2021, and called to order by Consortium President Kyle Seckinger.

Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Randee Elton, Bristol Dr. Vail Garvin, Bucks County Chamber of Commerce
Dana Cozza, Buckingham Township
Shawn Curran, Chalfont Borough
Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township
Laurie Hagey, Dublin Borough
Nick Valla, Middletown Township
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Middletown Township
Devan Ambron, Milford Borough
Bill Wert, Northampton Township
Bob Pelligrino, Northampton Township
Andrea Dewhurst, New Britain Borough
Michael Walsh, New Britain Township
Christina Szabo, New Hope Borough
Linda Reid, Perkasio Borough
Angela Benner, Plumstead Township
Andrea Susten, Plumstead Township
Paul Stepanoff, Richland Township
Kathy Wetzel, Richlandtown Township
Sherry Masteller, Reiglesville Borough
Eileen Bradley, Sellersville Borough
Mark Fournier, Telford Borough
Pat Marks, Tullytown Borough
John Ramey, Warminster Township
Katherine McGovern, Warminster Township
Daulton George, Warminster Municipal Authority
Tim Hagey, Warminster Municipal Authority
Christian Jones, Warrington Township
Ashley Casey, Warwick Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Skye Sorresso, Warwick Township
Greg Lippincott, West Rockhill Township
Paula Johnson, Yardley Borough

Sponsors:

Mike Italia, Barry Isett & Associates
Brian Jeter, Comcast
Sal Urbano, Civics Plus
Chris Englebert, Englebert Financial Advisers, LLC
Brian Lake, Equitable Advisors
Beth Kaufmann, Equitable Advisors
Aaron Nelson, Hough Associates
Kathy Thomas, High Swartz
Tracy Carroll, Penn Community Bank
Stephen Noll, TMA
Patty Barthel, Waste Management

Dan Fagan, Senator Steve Santarsiero's office
Shannon Sticker, Senator Steve Santarsiero's office

2. Q&A with Dr. David Damsker, MD, MPH, Director of Bucks County Health Department

Dr. David Damsker provided the membership with an update on the progress of the vaccination distribution and the possible next steps with county, state and CDC regulations. Dr. Damsker provided a brief overview of the new state regulations that were released days prior to our meeting, (i.e. no social distancing but still required to wear masks).

Dr. Damsker provided an update on the county vaccination sites. He noted that the Warwick Square shopping center location was administering 1,500-2,000 shots per day and is currently administering 300-500 shots per day. The vaccination appointments are starting to fade off. Dr. Damsker did express that the hospital cases are starting to decrease.

Mr. Seckinger asked Mr. Damsker if there was something that municipalities could do to support the Bucks County Health Department. Dr. Damsker expressed to keep sharing the vaccination location flyers with the hours of operations.

Mr. Seckinger questioned Mr. Damsker if he felt that a booster shot would be needed in the future. Mr. Damsker responded that there is a possibility for a booster shot. There was a discussion whether or not you would need to receive the same brand booster as you did for the original shot. Dr. Damsker did not feel that there was a difference if you received the same brand booster shot.

Prior to ending the Q&A session, Dr. Damsker took various questions from the membership. Dr. Damsker thanked the membership for having him at today's meeting and expressed that if anyone has any questions, to contact him directly via email or his contact number. Mr. Seckinger thanked Dr. Damsker for taking time from his very busy schedule to speak with the membership and take questions.

Municipalities Post-Pandemic

Panel: Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township, Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township, and Bob Pelligrino, Northampton Township

Future of working from home consideration: Discussion that each municipality is much more equipped to work from home than they were before COVID happened. Municipalities have purchased laptops to allow employees to work from home when needed and have installed Microsoft 365. There was discussion of the future working from home when sick and cannot come into the office. This would allow for the employee to be home and work.

Permanent policy changes: Discussion that each municipality has created a work from home policy due to COVID, possible policy created for mask wearing with general public.

Future of public meeting participation: Discussion that each municipality is prepared to return to in person public meetings with some social distance in place still.

Estimated revenue projections: Mr. Seckinger, Ms. Mason, and Mr. Pelligrino each provided an update on their estimated revenue projections for 2021 and an overview of the revenue for 2020. Group consensus that the building permit revenue was higher due to the pandemic and residents obtaining permits (i.e. pools, additions, etc.)

3. Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Upon motion by Stephanie Mason, seconded by Bob Pelligrino, the Treasurer's Report for April 2021, was unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Caroline Brinker, seconded by Bob Pelligrino, the April 1, 2021 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Open discussion:

Bill Wert (Northampton Township) provided an update to the membership on the Verizon Contract. Mr. Wert noted that the Verizon Contract is still in progress as there are some issues being worked out. Mr. Wert will send additional information as received.

Mr. Seckinger reminded all members that for anyone who register, we will meet in June at the First Annual Consortium Picnic at The Warwick Farm Brewing located at 800 Almshouse Road, Jamison, PA 18929 starting at 1:00 p.m. If anyone has any questions, please contact Ashley Casey, Consortium Coordinator.

6. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey

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Consortium Coordinator